

**FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR**

(Competitive Class)

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS**

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, and driving and operating fire department vehicles. Employees of this class are also responsible for the maintenance of fire apparatus, fire department equipment, the fire station, and for keeping records as assigned. Employees of this class perform duties under the supervision of and have work reviewed by a Fire Captain. This class reports to and ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in firefighting and rescue tasks such as connecting, carrying, and operating hose lines; directing fire streams; forcible entry; ventilation; and using ladders, lines, and other equipment to aid in fighting fires or removing fire and accident victims to safety. Observes and responds to changes in fireground conditions. Responds to medical emergency calls, and administers first aid and emergency care to the public.

Drives fire apparatus to and from scene of fire or emergency. Selects shortest available route to fire or emergency scene. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Positions apparatus and connects to supply source. Operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Calculates required water flow, friction loss, and discharge pressure necessary for fire suppression.

Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property, using covers, tarps, or other materials. Secures windows and doors and covers openings to protect structures. Constructs catchalls and chutes to trap and dispose of water. Locates and extinguishes hidden fires and hot spots. Removes debris and charred waste. Tears down or shores up weak and dangerous structural components. Wedges or clamps sprinklers after fire is extinguished to shut off flow of water. Resets alarms and

restores sprinkler systems.

Participates in fire cause determination. Observes witnesses at the fire scene and questions witnesses to determine fire cause. Informs officer in charge of suspected arson. Recognizes, notes, and preserves evidence of arson. Testifies in court when required.

Trains for and maintains proficiency in the procedures for special emergencies such as HAZMAT leaks, high rise fires, building cave-ins, etc. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Acts to contain hazardous material spill or control spread. Removes containers of flammable or hazardous materials at the fire scene under direction of a superior officer.

Attends and participates in assigned training drills either as an individual or as a member of a group. Reads and studies assigned material related to performance of work. Learns and maintains proficiency in the location and purpose of all fire fighting equipment, tools and operation. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains, and hydrants in response area.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting equipment such as fire apparatus, communications equipment, hoses, hand tools, portable breathing apparatus, turn-out equipment, ladders, or related equipment. Determines if fire fighting equipment is operating properly and ready for service. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Makes minor repairs to equipment and tools. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment on apparatus using checklist or knowledge of equipment.

Participates in fire inspections. Assists in pre-fire planning for industrial and commercial structures and residential areas. Draws preplanning maps and diagrams. Conducts fire drills in schools and businesses. Updates hydrant maps and vital building books. Inspects fire hydrants, conducts flow tests, and periodically flushes hydrants to remove rust and sediment.

Presents oneself in proper attire during a tour of duty. Performs tasks necessary for the proper maintenance of the station and grounds such as cleaning floors and windows, emptying trash cans, changing bed linens, and mowing grass. Inspects fire station and notifies officer in charge of needed repairs. Assist in preparing meals for firefighters at the station and cleans kitchen area. Provides for the security of the station by locking station doors and securing valuable items.

Performs public relations duties such as calming excited citizens at a fire scene, receiving and responding to questions and complaints from the public, and providing information to the

public concerning the work of the fire department. Conducts fire station tours and explains fire equipment and firefighting techniques to visiting public. Works with local youth groups and other community groups, delivering lectures or demonstrations on fire prevention or fire safety.

Completes any forms, records, or reports as required.

Performs related duties as assigned.

#### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Must have a high school diploma or a valid certificate of equivalency issued by a state department of education.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must be at least 18 years of age.